THE COMIC READER

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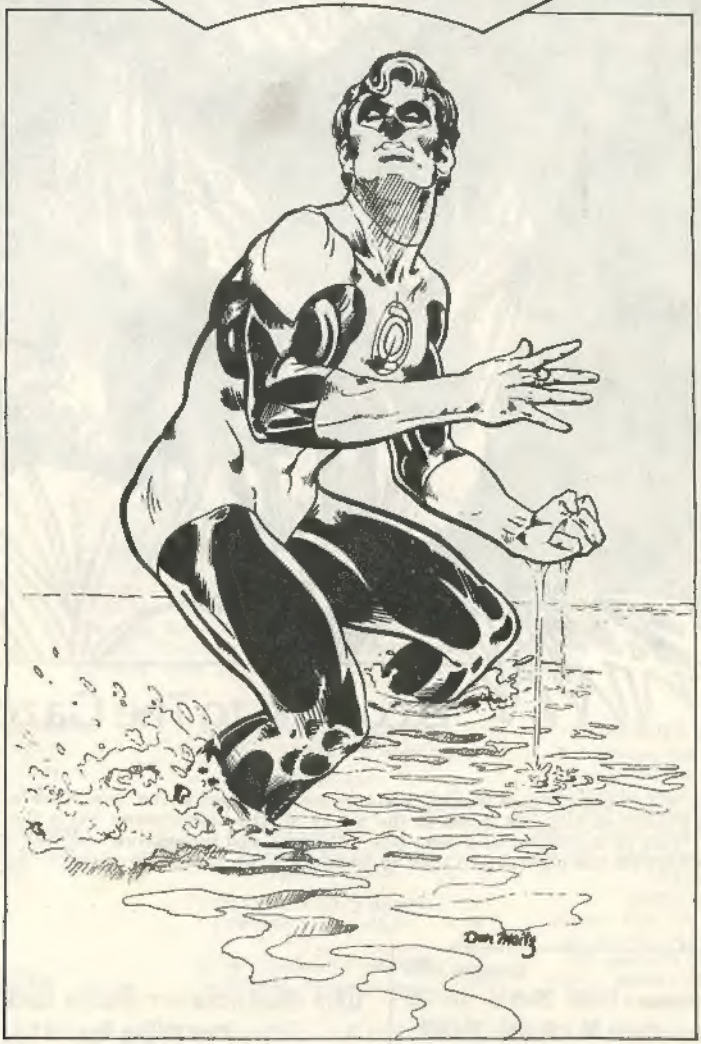
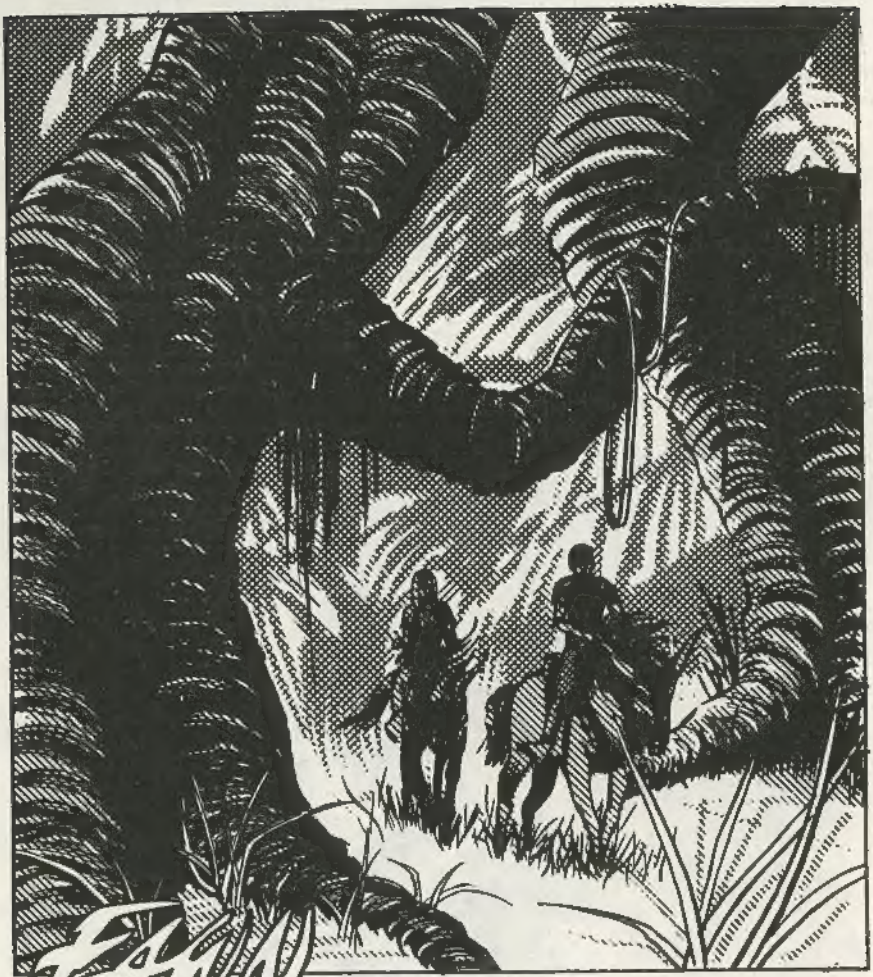


Number 106 · May 1974



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The Emerald Crusader as drawn by Don Maitz. © National Periodical Pubs.

The COMIC READER

May 1974
Volume 1, Number 106

Jerome Sinkovec
Editor & Publisher

David Finger
New York Reporter

Michael Tiefenbacher
Editor

Jerry Bails
Founder

Liam O'Connor
Fanzine Reviews

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National News

Curt Swan has drawn the third Julie Schwartz issue of WONDER WOMAN, which is narrated by Green Lantern.

Mike Grell will be drawing the Black Orchid, and Noly Panaligan will be drawing WEIRD WESTERN TALES.

The Golden Age Flash will returning to team-up with the current day Flash to battle two Golden Age villains, Ragdoll and the Thinker.

C. C. Beck will not be doing the full-length SHAZAM! story we previously announced.

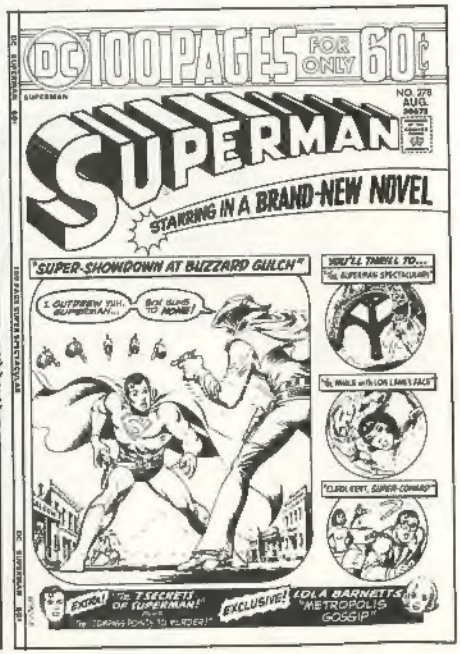
Joe Orlando takes over as editor of STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES with issue 174. David Michelinie will be writing The Unknown Soldier and Gerry Talaoc will be drawing it, as Editor Orlando takes it in a new direction.

Guy H. Lillian III and Bob Rozakis will alternate doing all letter columns for Julius Schwartz that are not done by E. Nelson Bridwell.

Frank Robbin's fill-in issue as artist on THE SHADOW has been so well received that he will replace Mike Kaluta as permanent artist. Mike's trouble with meeting the book's deadlines contributed to the decision.

The Shadow will once again meet the Batman in a sequel to "Who Knows What Evil..."

Starting soon in PHANTOM STRANGER will be a four-part Black Orchid story to be illustrated by Mike Grell and written by Mike Fleisher.



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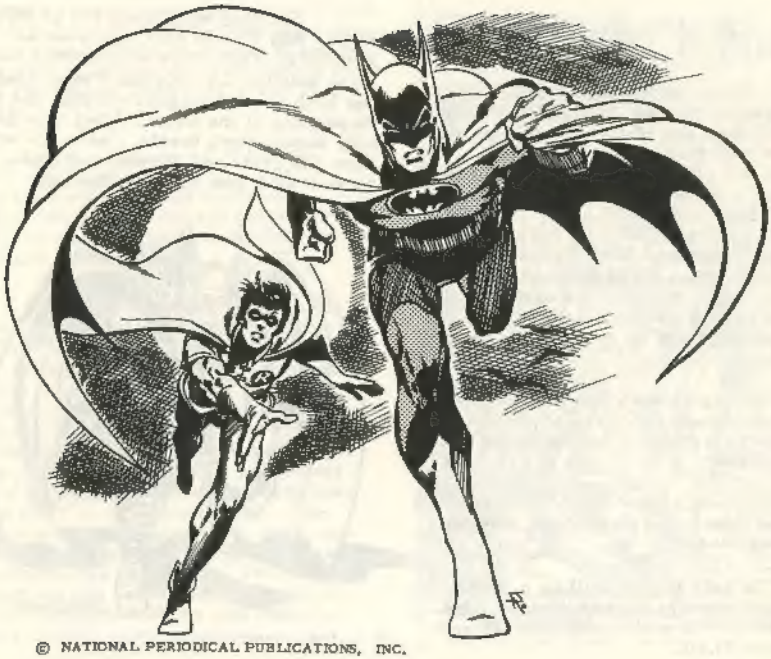

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Robin is scheduled to alternate with the Elongated Man as the back-feature in DETECTIVE COMICS when Julius Schwartz takes over as editor. Whenever Elongated Man appears in a new story, Robin will appear in a reprint, and vice versa.

Krypto will be re-appearing in the near future.

In a case of rather strained logic, our favorite human interest series, REX, THE WONDER DOG, is to be reprinted in TARZAN. Forgive the editorializing, but wouldn't CONGORILLA, or perhaps the myriad Infantino gorilla stories from STRANGE ADVENTURES be a bit more appropriate? Don't get me wrong -- I like Rex (you're talking to a Rex collector), but really... (Oh, the first IS called "African Manhunt.")

And speaking of editorializing, how many out there would like to see CAPTAIN COMET reprinted? Raise your hands. (Or are we the only ones?)

The opening story that began in the first issue if RIMA will conclude in the fourth issue.

Swamp Thing has "swamped" all its opponents in the 1973 Comic Art Fan Awards. Complete results are included in this issue.

The premiere issue of THE SANDMAN is reported to have received excellent response.

This has absolutely nothing to do with National Comics, but I wanted to make sure this gets in. Beginning in late May, the superb CONCHY by our good friend Jim Childress will be nationally syndicated by Publishers-Hall Syndicate. Plans call for a Sunday page by late June or early July. Congratulations, Jim!

If it looks like we're straining to fill space in this section, it's because we are.

Marvel News

There will be two comic art features in the new PLANET OF THE APES black and white magazine. One series will pick up where the last movie left off, the other will adapt the movies in order. The first adaptation, of the first movie, PLANET OF THE APES, naturally, will be drawn by George Tuska and Mike Esposito. The series will then be illustrated by Filipino artists. Each movie will be adapted in four or five installments. All the material will be scripted by Doug Moench.

Doug Moench has gone completely free-lance. His place on the Marvel editorial staff was filled by David Krafe. Hiya, Dave!

A new series in SAVAGE TALES will be Brak, The Barbarian, written by Doug Moench.

On sale in July will be a large, 100 page, square-spined "Spider-Man Treasury." It will contain no ads and will cost $1.50.

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Starting with issue #21 of POWER MAN, Ron Wilson will take over as penciller. That issue will feature Luke Cage battling the original Power Man, the long-time Avengers villain, for the ownership of the name. After this drag-out, knock-down tussle, issue #22 will have the return of Stiletto and Mace, as well as a new villain, Discus.

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As of April 22, Tony Isabella will take over as Associate Editor (in charge of the books, actually) for half of the black and white line. He will be in charge of MONSTERS UNLEASHED, TALES OF THE ZOMBIE, HAUNT OF HORROR, DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG-FU, PLANET OF THE APES, and three other black and whites. One is in production, but we can't tell you the name of this famous movie monster that will be featured because they still haven't signed the final contracts! Marv Wolfman will continue to handle VAMPIRE TALES, DRACULA LIVES and CRAZY.

Starting in WAR IS HELL #9 is a new series about a man who refuses to believe in the upcoming invasion of Poland, and dies in the German blitzkrieg. His punishment for his last actions is imposed by Death, the other main character, as Robert Kowalski, after death, must go through World War II, as his own personal hell.

The hardcover book featuring origins of the Marvel characters that we mentioned last year is well on its way to becoming a reality.

Kull will appear irregularly in the new black and white SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN book, now that his own title has been indefinitely shelved. Already set is "Black Abyss" (an adaptation) by Steve Englehart, Ross Andru and John Severin.

Besides the previously mentioned "unmentionable" black and white book which awaits contract-signing, Marvel ultimately plans to add three more magazines to their black and white stable.

The second Satana story, "Fire in Hell" was sent to Spanish artist Esteban Maroto to be rendered, but as time passed, the story did not come in, and the third tale, "Bloody Is The Path To Hell" was sent to Spain to be drawn by Badia Romero (the current artist on the Modesty Blaise English newspaper strip, who has had a story previously in the Marvel black & whites, and just had a story in a Warren mag). The second story, long over-due, was cancelled, and re-done as a text feature, to maintain the continuity. The results of both scripts appear in the issue of HAUNT OF HORROR on this month's list of coming comics.

Steve Englehart will be leaving MASTER OF KUNG FU with #19. It seems Steve couldn't reconcile his conception of the series with the necessary multiple appearances of the character in the black and white title, and since Marvel's current policy is to have the same writer handle both the color and black and white versions of each character, he voluntarily stepped down.

The weekly eight-page Shang-Chi strips being done for English audiences, will be gathered up, four per month, for a GIANT-SIZE MASTER OF KUNG FU 50¢ title. (I know it seems that the GIANT-SIZE books are being released rather indiscriminately, and that we don't have any idea what is to be expected. Well, neither does Marvel -- their production schedules cannot be printed fast enough to keep up with the new titles.)

"Spidey Super Stories" is a book Marvel is putting out in conjunction with the Electric Company. Jean Thomas is writing it, with Winslow Mortimer pencilling and Mike Esposito inking.

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A new feature on the splash page of each Marvel book will be a short blurb re-telling the origin of the main character.

There'll be extra issues of some Marvel titles this summer; thus far the only one we're certain of is DR. STRANGE, #3 will contain a reprint of the first appearances of Dormammu and Clea from STRANGE TALES #126-127 by Ditko, with framing pages by Frank Brunner.

The All Winners Squad will appear in the first issue of GIANT-SIZE AVENGERS.

Jim Starlin has left Marvel due to conceptual disputes and will work for Warren. Jim's last CAPTAIN MARVEL will be #34, which was re-scripted by Steve Englehart. Thereafter the strip will be in the hands of Englehart and Alfredo Alcala, which is bound to be a bit dissimilar to the Starlin version.

COMING COMICS is a listing of upcoming releases from the major comic art publishers. The "on sale" dates are from the publishers' production schedules and serve as approximate indications of the date your local distributor may feel like putting the material on display. The following is the format of each listing:

TITLE (Number, cover date). Description of all known contents, credits for the feature/s in this order: writer, artist, inker. (On sale date)

National Coming Comics

GHOSTS (29, August). In this issue we have: "Haunted Lady of Death" by Al Case and Tony DeZuniga, "Howling of the Ghost Hounds" by Leo Dorfman and Art Saaf, "Claws of the Phantom" by Leo Dorfman and John Calnan, "Hollywood Hauntings" by Al Case and John Calnan, and a text feature called "Mummy in the Cellar." (5/7)

OUR ARMY AT WAR (271, August). Sgt. Rock appears in "Brittle Harvest" by Robert Kanigher and Russ Heath. The back-up feature is a Robert Kanigher Gallery of War. Cover by Joe Kubert. (5/7).

WONDER WOMAN (213, August-September). The Flash narrates "The War-No-More Machine" by Cary Bates, Irv Novick and Tex Blaisdell. (5/7)

YOUNG LOVE (111, August-September). 100 pages. New and reprinted material. (5/7) 60¢

LIMITED COLLECTOR'S EDITION (C-29). The second dollar Tarzan book features the five part adaptation of ERB's novel, "The Return of Tarzan" by Joe Kubert. Also in this issue: A two page pin-up of Tarzan and Jane by Joe Kubert, a review of Philip Jose Farmer's book, TARZAN ALIVE, and a two page feature on "How To Draw Tarzan's Animals" by Joe Kubert. (5/9) $1

FAMOUS FIRST EDITION LIMITED COLLECTORS' BRONZE MINT SERIES (C-30). Wonder Woman's first appearance in a starring role is the lead in the reprint of SENSATION COMICS' first issue. Other golden age features include The Black Pirate by Shelly Moldoff, Wildcat, Mr. Terrific, Little Boy Blue and the Blue Boys, and more. Originally published January, 1942. (5/9) $1

THE PHANTOM STRANGER (32, August-September). PS appears in "It Takes A Witch" by Arnold Drake and Bill Draut. The Black Orchid follows in "Crimes of the Black Orchid" by Mike Fleisher, Russell Carley and Nestor Redondo. Cover by Luis Dominguez. (5/14)

KAMANDI (20, August). Kamandi makes a discovery about the humans who act like 1920's mobsters in "The Electric Chair" by Jack Kirby and D. Bruce Berry. (5/14)

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THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!
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YOU ARE LEAVING CHICAGO... COME AGAIN... COME AGAIN... COME AGAIN!

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HOUSE OF MYSTERY (226, August-September). 100 pages. New Material: "Garden of Evil" by Jack Oleck and Fred Alcala, "Teddy Doesn't Seem To Smile Anymore" by Marty Pasko and Frank Robbins, "Monster in the House" by Jack Oleck and Nestor Redondo, a Tour of the House of Mystery and a feature on Cain's gargoyle, both by Paul Levitz and Pat Broderick, "Out of This World" by Jack Oleck and Gerry Talaoc, "Perfect Mate" by Bob Kanigher and Jess Jodolman, and an introductory page by Pat Broderick. Reprints are: The Phantom Stranger in "Living Nightmare," "Scared To Life" by Berni Wrightson, "The Devil's Chessboard," "School For Sorcerors," "3 Wishes Of Doom," and "Haunted Melody." (5/14) 60¢

RIMA, THE JUNGLE GIRL (3, August-September). "Rio Lama" gives us a flashback on the birth of Rima, and is written by Joe Kubert and illustrated by Nestor Redondo. The origin of the Space Voyagers is presented in "The Hot Spot" by Robert Kanigher and Alex Nino. (5/16).

THE SHADOW (6, August-September). A politician, a friend of Lamont Cranston, is a target for assassination in "Night of the Ninja" by Denny O'Neil and Mike Kaluta. (5/16)

BLACK MAGIC (5, August-September). Reprinted from the 50's are "Strange Old Bud" and "Up There" by Simon and Kirby and "It's Your Funeral" by Mort Meskin. (5/16)

THE WITCHING HOUR (45, August). Featured: "Bet Your Life" by George Kashdan and Don Perlin, "Ghostly Genie" by Al Case and Tony DeZuniga, "For Whom the Ghost Bell Tolls" by Leo Dorfman, and "Something Sinister About Uncle Harry" by Carl Wessler and Jerry Grandinetti. (5/21)

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SUPERMAN (278, August). 100 pages. Superman's Adventures Around the World is the theme of this issue. The new story is "Super-Showdown At Buzzard Gulch" by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Bob Oksner. Reprints are: "The Compass Points to Murder," " The 7 Secrets of Superman," "The Mermaid from Atlantis," "Clark Kent, Coward" and "The Superman Spectaculars." Cover by Nick Cardy. (5/21)

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD (114, August-September). 100 pages. Batman and Aquaman appear in "The Last Jet to Gotham" by Bob Haney and Jim Aparo. Reprints are the Teen Titans in "Terrible Teen" by Bob Haney and Nick Cardy, Green Arrow and the Martian Manhunter in "The Capsule Master" by Bob Haney and George Roussos, and Aquaman in "Charge of the Sea Soldiers" by Ramona Fradon, and a feature on "Batman's Backrounds For Action." Cover by Jim Aparo. (5/21) 60¢

OUR FIGHTING FORCES (150, August-September). The Losers are detached from their command and come across a British patrol tracking down a hidden supply cache in "Mark Our Graves" by Robert Kanigher and John Severin. Back-up feature is "Catch" by Archie Goodwin and Ed Davis, and there is a two page Battle Album by Ken Barr. (5/21)

HOUSE OF SECRETS (122, August). In this issue: "Requiem For An Igor" by Jack Oleck and Fred Alcala, "Grave Business" by David Michelinie and Ruben Yandoc, "There He Is Again" by Don Carr and Fred Alcala, and "The Sentor" by Marty Pasko and Sam Glanzman. (5/21)

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THE SUPERMAN FAMILY (166, August-September). 100 pages. Theme of this issue is "Law and Spies" and the lead feature is Lois Lane in "The Murdering Arm of Metropolis" by Cary Bates, John Rosenberger and Vince Colletta. Reprints are: "Car 54, Get Lost," "Super-Baby Captures the Pumpkin Gang," "The Great Supergirl Doublecross," "Olsen's Super-Survival Kit" and "Lex Luthor and Clark Kent, Cell Mates." (5/28) 60¢

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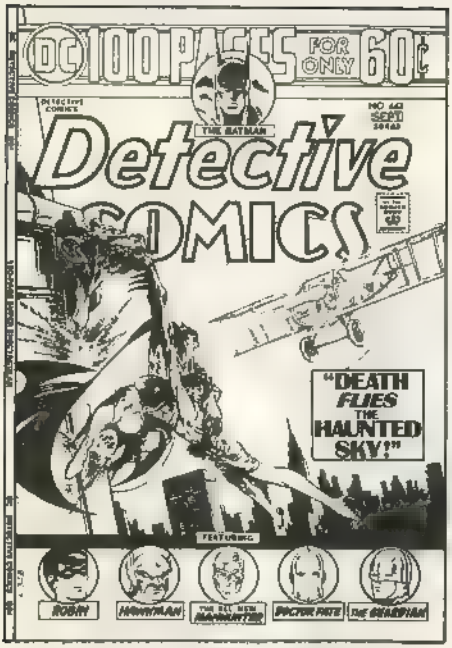
WEIRD MYSTERY TALES (13, August-September). Special Unlucky Issue! "Come Share My Coffin" by Jack Oleck and Jess Jodolman, "Search for a Werewolf" by George Kashdan and Alex Nino, and "His Master's Voice" by Jack Oleck and Fred Alcala. Cover by Luis Dominguez. (5/28)

WEIRD WAR TALES (28, August). This issue features the book-length story, "The Forgotten Warrior" by George Kashdan and Fred Alcala. (5/28)

TARZAN (232, August-September). 100 pages. Part two of "Tarzan and the Lion Men" by Joe Kubert, and Korak in "Pit of Darkness" by Robert Kanigher and Alex Nino are the new stories this issue. Reprints are "Tarzan and the Monkey Men" by Russ Manning, Congo Bill in "The Man Who Wanted to Die a Hero" by Jon Small, Detective Chimp in "The Case of the Runaway Ostrich" by John Broome, Carmine Infantino and Frank Giacoia, and Rex, The Wonder Dog in "African Manhunt." Cover by Joe Kubert. (5/30). 60¢



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DETECTIVE COMICS (442, August-September). 100 pages. Batman in "Death Flies the Haunted Sky" by Archie Goodwin and Alex Toth, and Manhunter in "To Duel The Master" by Archie Goodwin and Walt Simonson make up the new material. Reprints are the Elongated Man in "The Robbery that Never Happened," an untitled golden age Dr. Fate story from MORE FUN #68, The Guardian and the Newsboy Legion in "The House Where Time Stood Still" by Simon and Kirby, Batman in "The Vanishing Village," Hawkman in "The Magic Mirror Mystery," and the first solo Black Canary story, "The Huntress of the Highway" by Carmine Infantino. Cover by Jim Aparo. (5/30) 60¢

ACTION COMICS (438, August). Superman battles "A Monster Called Lois Lane" by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Bob Oksner. The Atom appears in "The Man Who Tape Recorded The Atom" by Marty Pasko, Dick Dillin and Tex Blaisdell. (5/30)

Red Circle News

A second Sorcery-type comic is in the works. RED CIRCLE MADHOUSE is the title at the moment, but the title may be changed.

A second issue of SUPER COPS is uncertain at this time.

Coming Comic

RED CIRCLE SORCERY (8, August). Featured: "The Highwayman's Escape," a 17th century period piece by Don Karr and Frank Thorne, an old pulp hero returns to wreak vengence on today's criminals in "Die In The Name Of The Law" by Marv Channing and Gray Morrow, a musician plays a stolen symphony and is unhappily surprised in "Enough To Raise The Dead" by Don Glut and Carlos Pino, a pirate tries to live on by destroying Death in "The Man Who Tried to Kill Death" by Marv Channing and Alex Toth, "The Marching Band" by Marv Channing, and an Essay in the Supernatural about Poltergeists by Frank Thorne. Cover by Gray Morrow. (6/11)

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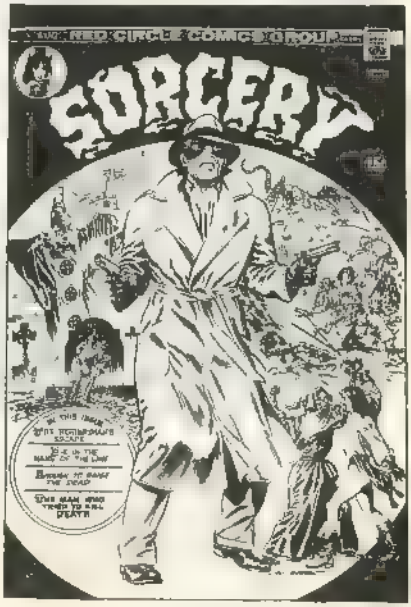

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FREE-STAR TREK BLOOPERS

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COSTUME CONTEST STAR TREK '74 and HOUSTONCON '74 will have a combined gala costume contest with a first prize of $100.00 in cash!! So let's get busy and make sure that Star Trek is well represented in it.

Marvel Coming Comics

GIANT-SIZE SPIDER-MAN (1, July). Spidey and Dracula in a unique team-up: they are both involved in the story, but they never meet. By Len Wein and Ross Andru. The reprint back-up feature is "Spider-Man Tackles the Human Torch," a short from SPIDER-MAN #8 that has never before been reprinted. This story, one of the earliest Spidey-Torch get-togethers, was done by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Steve Ditko. (4/23)50¢

GIANT-SIZE DEFENDERS (1, July). A series of reprints are interconnected by new material this issue. (4/23) 50¢

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THE INCREDIBLE HULK (178, August). In the conclusion of the Warlock trilogy, the Warlock rises back to life three days after his death. "Triumph on Terra-Two" is by Roy Thomas (plot), Tony Isabella (script), Herb Trimpe (pencils) and Jack Abel (inks). (4/30)

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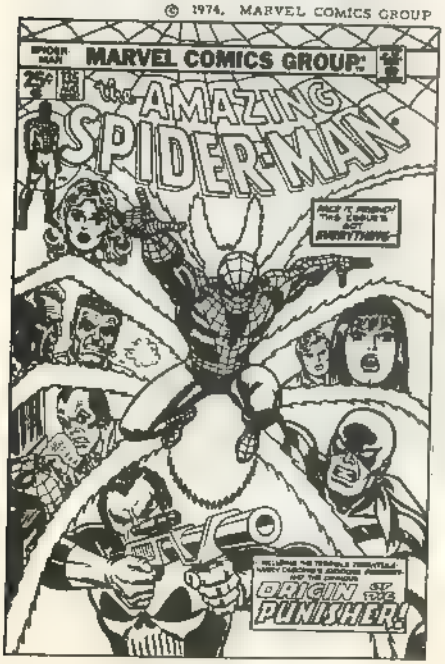

KID COLT, OUTLAW (185, August). Assorted reprints. (4/30)

DAREDEVIL (112, August). The Mandrill and Nekra take over the White House in "Death of a Nation," by Steve Gerber, Gene Colan, and Frank Giacoia. (4/30)

IRON MAN (69, August). Iron Man in Viet-Nam battles Sunfire, The Mandarin, The Yellow Claw and the Unicorn. Story by Mike Friedrich, George Tuska and Vince Colletta. (4/30)

THE OUTLAW KID (23, August). Reprints of the western character by Doug Wildey. (4/30)

WEIRD WONDER TALES (5, August). Science fiction reprints. (4/30)

WORLDS UNKNOWN (8, August). "The Land of the Lost" is the conclusion of the Sinbad movie adaptation by Len Wein, George Tuska and Vince Colletta. (4/30)

MARVEL TALES (52, August). Spidey battles the fat fiend in "Mission: Crush the Kingpin" by Stan Lee, Johnny Romita and Jim Mooney. Reprinted from SPIDER-MAN #69. (4/30)

●

DRACULA LIVES (7, July). Important businessmen working for Dracula are being mysteriously murdered in "Here Comes the Deathman," by Gerry Conway and Vicente Alcazar. The third part of the adaptation of Bram Stoker's novel, "The Female of the Species," is by Roy Thomas and Dick Giordano. "Assault of the She Pirate" is by Mike Friedrich and George Evans. Text material this ish is: the second part of Thompson O'Rourke's "Bloodmoon," Tony Isabella's review of "Taste the Blood of Dracula" and more Coffin Chronicles by Carla Joseph.. (5/7)75¢

OUR LOVE STORY (29, August). Romance reprints. (5/7)

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (135, August). The Tarantula story continues, with an appearance by the Punisher, in "Shoot-Out in Central Park" by Gerry Conway, Ross Andru and Frank Giacoia. (5/7)

TWO-GUN KID (119, August). Reprint stories. (5/7)

TOMB OF DRACULA (23, August). Continued from GIANT-SIZE CHILLERS #1. Dracula goes after the spook who has been terrorizing his new love life, the lady who owns the castle in London he has taken over. The tormentor's identity is revealed in "Shadows In The Night" by Marv Wolfman, Gene Colan and Tom Palmer. (5/7)

MONSTERS ON THE PROWL (29, August). Horror reprints. (5/7)

CAPTAIN AMERICA (176, August). "Captain America Must Die!" is the command given by the group that wants to discredit him. This story is an in-depth study of Cap through the eyes of his friends as he stands on the eve of his most important decision. Produced by Steve Englehart, Sal Buscema and Vince Colletta. (5/7)

GIANT SIZE MAN-THING (1, August). "How Will We Keep Warm When the Last Flame Dies?" is an energy crisis - ecology story which features Man-Thing versus The Glob. Putting this together were Steve Gerber, Mike Ploog and Frank Chiarmonte. (5/7) 50¢

VAULT OF EVIL (17, August). Horror reprints. (5/7)

WAR IS HELL (8, August). "Killed In Action," by Stan Lee, Dick Ayers and Chic Stone, is reprinted from SGT. FURY #18. (5/7)

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THOR (226, August). Hercules and the Thunder God are about to battle the Firelord, but end up uniting with him to face Ego, the Living Planet in "The Battle Beyond," which also has an appearance by Galactus. Brought to you by Gerry Conway, John Buscema and Joe Sinnott. (5/14)

THE AVENGERS (126, August). The Avengers fight the Klaw and Solarr as the Black Panther stars in "All the Sights and Sounds of Death." Tied in to the above issue of CAPTAIN AMERICA, this story also has a showdown between Wanda and the Vision. By Steve Englehart, Bob Brown and Dave Cockrum. (5/14)

GIANT-SIZE AVENGERS (1, August). A story chock full of surprises, including the All Winners Squad, is provided by Roy Thomas and Rich Buckler. (5/14) 50 ¢

THE X-MEN (89, August). "Now Strikes the Sub-Human" by Roy Thomas, Don Heck and George Tuska is reprinted from X-MEN #41. (5/14)

DOCTOR STRANGE (2, August). Dr. Strange, trying to reach the center of the orb, stumbles upon a creature called the Soul-Eater and a mad tea party composed of familiar but unreal characters. A special centerspread in this issue by Steve Englehart, Frank Brunner and Dick Giordano. (5/14)

THE GHOST RIDER (7, August). The secret of the second Zodiac is revealed in "And Lose his Soul," the first of two parts that will revamp the character. The Stuntmaster, who will become a major character in the series, is brought into the storyline in this chapter by Tony Isabella, Jim Mooney and Jack Abel. (5/14)

ASTONISHING TALES (25, August). Featured is the debut of the half/machine/half-monster named Deathlok, the Demolisher in "A Cold Knight's Frenzy" by Doug Moench and Rich Buckler. (5/14)

DEAD OF NIGHT (5, August). Horror reprints. (5/14)

HAUNT OF HORROR (2, July). Gabriele, the Devil Hunter debuts in a story by Doug Moench and Billy Graham, and "Grandma Dies Last Year" is a story by Doug Moench and Gene Colan. "The Exorcist Tapes" is the first part of a transciption of a meeting of the Marvel editorial staff which discussed the popular movie, and Satana is featured in "Fire in Hell" by Gerry Conway, a text story with some art by Pablo Marcos, and the Devil's Daughter is also in "Bloody is the Path to Hell" by Gerry Conway and Badia Romero. (5/21) 75¢

MASTER OF KUNG FU (19, August). The Man-Thing guest stars with Shang-Chi in "Retreat" by Steve Englehart, Paul Gulacy and Al Milgrom. (5/21)

POWERMAN (20, August). A new logo sports the conclusion of the Cottonmouth story, as Cage shoots the works to prove his innocence in "How Like A Serpent's Tooth," by Tony Isabella, George Tuska and Vince Colletta. (5/21)

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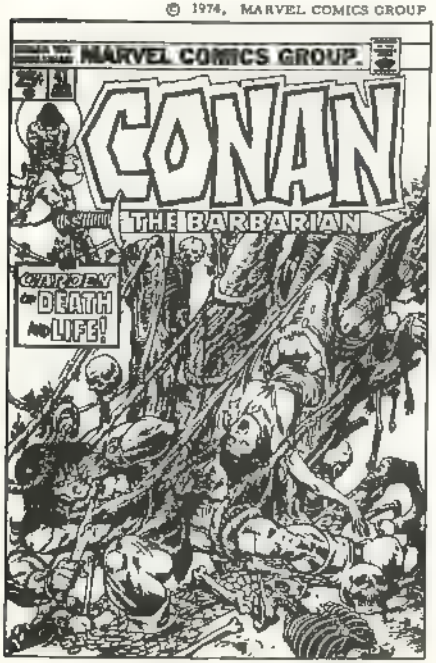


MARVEL DOUBLE FEATURE (5, August). Iron Man battles the Mole Man's legions as the Master of the Earth's Core attacks in "Crisis at the Earth's Core," by Stan Lee, Gene Colan and Frank Giacoia. Captain America is framed by the Planner in "Wanted: Captain America," by Roy Thomas, Jack Sparling and Joe Sinnott. (5/21)

SUPERNATURAL THRILLERS (8, August). The Mummy is teleported to another dimension by the Elementals in "Power Times Four," by Tony Isabella and Val Mayerik. (5/21)

GIANT-SIZE FANTASTIC FOUR (2, August). Willie Lumpkin is going to change history, and the Fantastic Four have to try to stop him. Story by Gerry Conway, Sal Buscema and Chic Stone. (5/21) 50¢

FEAR (23, August). An alien planet is the setting for Morbius' latest adventure, "Alone Against Arctaurus," by Steve Gerber, Craig Russell and Vince Colletta. (5/21)

MAN-THING (8, August). The conquistador series concludes with the secret of the wise ones in "The Gift of Death" by Steve Gerber and Mike Ploog. (5/21)

CONAN THE BARBARIAN (41, August). The hero faces an oasis with carnivorous trees -- "The Garden of Life and Death" is by Roy Thomas and John Buscema. (5/21)

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT (20, August). Baron Thundarr appears and Jack Russell finds a way to retain his human intelligence when he is a werewolf in "The Eye Of The Wolf," by Doug Moench, Don Perlin and Vince Colletta. (5/28)

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN (33, August). Western reprints. (5/28)

MARVEL TEAM-UP (24, August). "Menace Is A Man Called Moondog," who faces the team of Spider-Man and Brother Voodoo. Story written by Len Wein, layed out by Jim Mooney, pencilled by Dick Ayers and inked by Sal Trapani. (5/28)

FANTASTIC FOUR (140, August). The FF continue their battle with the Sub-Mariner in a story by Gerry Conway, Rich Buckler and Joe Sinnott. (5/28)

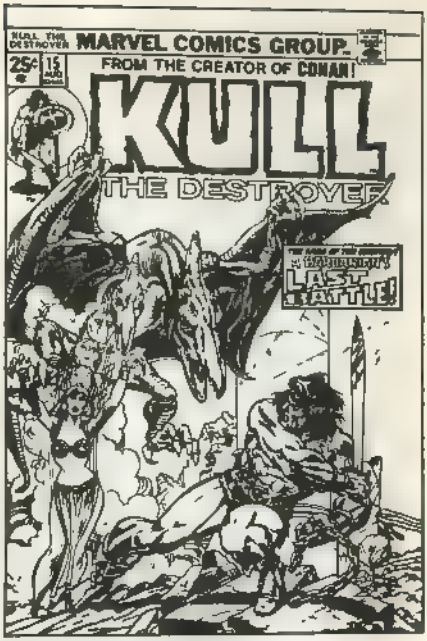
KULL THE DESTROYER (15, August). In the conclusion of the Black Belfry story, Kull is determined to track down the monster that attacked him and took Ridondo -- and still is surprised. Last issue, by Steve Englehart, Mike Ploog and Ernie Chua. (5/28)

JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY (12, August). Horror reprints. (5/28)

STRANGE TALES (175, August). No Golem in this issue because the art was late getting back from the Philippines. Horror reprints. (5/28)

UNCANNY TALES (5, August). Horror reprints. (5/28)

SAVAGE TALES (5, July). Ka-Zar appears in "Legend of the Lizard Man" by Stan Lee and John Buscema. Conan is in "The Secret of Skull River" by John Jakes (plot), Roy Thomas (script), Jim Starlin (pencils) and Al Milgrom. Brak the Barbarian appears in a reprint from CHAMBER OF CHILLS #2, "Spell of the Dragon," by John Jakes (script), Dan Adkins (plot and layout), Val Mayerik (pencils), and Joe Sinnott (inks). Text material includes the second part of the article on the Gnome Press and various fillers. (5/28) 75¢



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Et Al

Last issue we mentioned Nick Meglin's book, THE ART OF HUMOROUS ILLUSTRATIONS, as coming out next August. Nick wrote again and mentioned the book came out last December and is doing nicely. Sorry, Nick! We misread the catalog clipping.

Further news about the 4th annual American Nostalgia Convention in Dallas, July 11th through the 14th... Buster Crabbe has been confirmed as a guest. Crabbe, the "King of the Serials," played Tarzan, Buck Rogers, Captain Silver, Flash Gordon, Thunda, and many other roles. He was also TV's Captain Gallant in a series that ran 78 episodes.

Other guests will include L. Stanford Jolley, who was in 22 serials and ranks as "King of the Serial Villains," and Duncan Renaldo, longtime star famed for his role as the Cisco Kid.

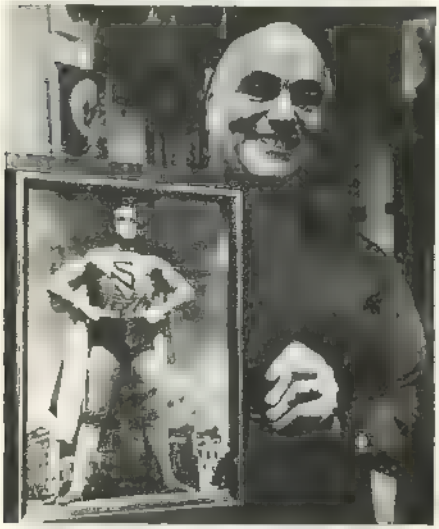
Also, the convention staff has been working with Warner Bros. regarding the World Premiere of their new Doc Savage film and it looks like Dallas may have the inside track on getting the premiere. As the staff told Warner Bros, what better place to premiere the movie than at a nostalgia convention? The only problem will be whether or not the special effects are completed in time, but Warners is hopeful of a "general release" in August, with the World Premiere about mid-July, which co-incides right with the date of the convention. If the premiere works out, George Pal, Ron Ely, and other people connected with the film are sure to be on hand.

Tickets for the con will be $7.50 and dealers' tables are $19.50, while the short supply lasts. Anyone wanting the second progress report is advised to drop a line to Larry Herndon, 1830 Highland Drive, Carrollton, Texas, 75006.

The fourth edition of Bob Overstreet's THE COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE is just out, with 496 pages of prices and information. Available for $6.50 plus 35¢ postage in softcover, or $8.50 plus 35¢ postage in hardcover, from Bob Overstreet, 2905 Vista Drive NW, Cleveland, Tenn. 37311.

Et Al

COMIC STRIP NEWS: Little Orphan Annie, who received a new artist on february 6th, David Lettick, with quite a bit of publicity, will be going into reprints of 1936 material starting April 22nd. Lettick's material was disliked in most quarters, which resulted in his short strip career. The strip, starting with the first week of reprints, will be added to the Menomonee Falls GAZETTE. We would like to give a perfectly un-biased recommendation to the GAZETTE, but since we put it out, we have to admit to a little bias. So buy it, anyway! Rates in the ad on page 2.



- AP Wirephoto

Some of the wire services have had stories about Mayo Kaan, who posed for Jerry Seigal and Joe Shuster in the creation of comicdom's most famous super-hero. Above, he holds a 1936 photo of himself in the Superman costume. Kaan, now 60, runs a health club in Winthrop, Mass.

Allow me the opportunity to request that any of the various professionals receiving TCR periodically drop us a line to tell us what you are currently doing (in comics, that is). It seems a lot of the previous contacts that were set up under Paul Levitz's regime think we don't need them anymore -- well, we do! Here's the chance to see your name in print, all you gloryhounds.

NOSTALGIA, INC., the Texas group that reprinted WHIZ COMICS #2, ALL STAR COMICS #3 and POLICE COMICS #1, full color covers with B&W insides, have at the printers their next three books. The new releases are BLACKHAWK #9, the first issue from 1944, SILVER STREAK #1, featuring the origin of the Claw, and other characters, from 1939, and UNCLE SAM #1, with the origin and other stories by Will Eisner, from 1941. The books are $3 each or all three for $8, from NOSTALGIA, INC., Box 34305, Dallas, Texas, 75234.

Printed and available from DYNA-PUBS' FLASHBACK series are NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR COMICS - 1939, an early DC comic, 96 pages, featuring Superman, Sandman and Zatara; CAPTAIN MARVEL #1, 64 pages of the Big Red Cheese by Jack Kirby; PLASTIC MAN #1, 52 pages of the great Jack Cole; and DOLL MAN QUARTERLY #1, from 1941. These reprints have the color covers and B&W insides and are $3 each, or all four for $10 from DYNA-PUBS, RR#1, Box 297, East Moline, Illinois, 61244.

DYNA-PUBS has also published a giant book, SPECIAL EDITION SERIES #1, which is a 324 page collection of Captain Marvel material reprinted from WHIZ COMICS #7-28. Available for $9.95 from DYNA-PUBS.

1973 Comic Art Fan Awards

FAVORITE PRO ARTIST:
Berni Wrightson

FAVORITE PRO WRITER:
Len Wein

FAVORITE PRO EDITOR:
Roy Thomas

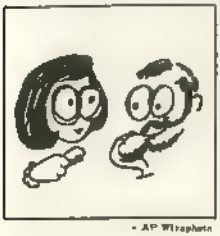
FAVORITE PRO COMIC BOOK:
SWAMP THING

FAVORITE NON-NEWSSTAND COMIC BOOK:
The Menomonee Falls GAZETTE

FAVORITE COMIC BOOK STORY:
"Night of the Bat" by Len Wein, Berni Wrightson and Joe Orlando.

FAVORITE COMIC BOOK CHARACTER:
Conan the Barbarian

FAVORITE FANZINE:
The COMIC READER



FAVORITE FAN WRITER:
Don & Maggie Thompson

FAVORITE FAN ARTIST:
Don Newton

Vote totals and runner-ups are being rechecked; we'll have them next issue.

Charlton News

Charlton's newest character, Miss Liberty Belle, is the concept of writer Tom Gill. She will be their company's women's libber, and as a costumed character will battle super-villains. Some of the action in her stories will be set in outer space. The design for the character was first put up to Mike Vosburg, former fan artist. Dissatisfied with this version, Gill and Charlton editor George Wildman turned to Dan Adkins to work on the character. Dan's first drawings of the character were returned with tissue overlays by Wildman with suggested adjustments to Miss Belle. Dan's revisions were made, and he mentioned the work to a number of other professionals, which was not appreciated by the Charlton offices, since they had wanted secrecy on the project until it was ready. Dan left the project and was replaced by Charlton regular Steve Ditko. The first appearance of Miss Liberty Belle will be as a back-up feature of E-MAN #5 or 6, in a short story by Gill and Ditko.

HAUNTED #18 will be a special science fiction issue, with art by Steve Ditko, Wayne Howard and Joe Staton.

Coming Comics

PEBBLES AND BAMM-BAMM (21, August). (5/7)

DINO (5, August). (5/7)

THE FLINTSTONES (31, August). (5/7)

Warren News

Rumors are circulating that Warren Publications are preparing two new books to be introduced in the near future. Warren, when asked, declined to confirm or deny this. Since the larger companies are able to put together a magazine and get it on the stands in less time than it takes Warren Publishing, the company maintains its own policy of keeping its newest and most unique projects under wraps as long as it can to get the best jump ahead of the other black and white publishers. We respect Warren's request, and will bring you the information on any new projects from Warren when the time comes.

Some time ago, one of the best comic artists around left comic books to do weekly adult strips for the paper devoted to the service man's readership, OVERSEAS WEEKLY. All the major companies, and the collectors, too, missed his work, and will be happy to hear he's returning to the fold. Since the paper shortage cut the paper to a bi-weekly (OVERSEAS EVERY-OTHER-WEEKLY?), Wally Wood will be coming back to comic books, starting with work this summer in Warren magazines.

●

FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND (#108) (4/18) $1

CREEPY #62 features "Black Cat," an Edgar Allan Poe story adapted by Berni Wrightson, "Buffaloed" by Larry Herndon and John Severin, "Judas," a sci-fi color story by Rich Margopolis and Rich Corben, "Fire Trap" by Butterworth and Vicente Alcazar (after Toth), "The Maze" by Steve Skeates and Leo Summers, "Survivor or Savior" by Steve Skeates and Gonzalo Mayo, and "The Demon Within" by Steve Skeates and Isidro Mones. Cover is by Ken Kelly, inside covers by Berni Wrightson. (4/18) $1

●

EERIE #57 has a number of new series starting: The Spook in "Stridespider - Spongerot" by Doug Moench and Esteban Maroto, The Hacker in "Hide From The Hacker" by Steve Skeates and Tom Sutton, Child in an untitled color story by Greg Potter and Rich Corben, and It in "The Terror of Fiery Mansion" by Carl Wessler and Jose Gaul. Dr. Archaeus continues in "A Switch in Time" by Gerry Bourdeau and Isidro Mones, and the last episode of Hunter, untitled as before, is by Bill Dubay and Paul Neary. (4/30) $1

VAMPIRELLA #34 has Vampy in "Carnival of Death" by Flaxman Lowe and Jose Gonzales, a new series starring Fleur, a witch, in "From the Spain of Legend" by J. Jacobson and Ramon Torrents, "Miranda" by Felix Maas and Fred Ott, "Black and White Blues" a color story by Doug Moench and Esteban Maroto, "Reoccurance" by Steve Skeates and Jose Bea, and "Cold Cuts" written by Berni Wrightson and drawn by Jeff Jones. Cover by Enrich. (5/2) $1

E-MAN (4, August). E-Man in "The City in the Sand" by Nick Cuti and Joe Staton. In back - another appearance of "Killjoy" by Steve Ditko. (5/14)

FIGHTIN' MARINES (118, August). (5/14)

●

THE GREAT GAZOO (5, August). (5/21)

LOVE AND ROMANCE (18, August). (5/21)

SARGE SNORKEL (4, August). (5/23)

THE PHANTOM (61, August). The Phantom's father once made a promise to a man entering prison for a crime he didn't commit. The death of this Phantom left the commitment unfulfilled, until after twenty years an earthquake frees the prisoner, and he goes to the current Phantom, not knowing this is the son of the man who made a promise to him, and asks once more. Story re-written by Joe Gill from an Italian created story. Cover by Jim Aparo. (5/23)

●

LOVE DIARY (89, August). (5/30)

I LOVE YOU (108, August). (5/30)

Alternative comix did not die out in 1973 as some were predicting and all of the top companies are still publishing regularly in spite of a paper shortage and a conservative Supreme Court decision. All of the evidence indicates that a large market exists for the comix and most are selling well. Higher prices will slow sales for awhile until everyone gets used to 75 - centers, but print junkies have a way of adjusting fast. Top publishers, re: number of books, were The Print Mint and Last-Gasp Eco-Funnies. New Publishers include Mike Friedrich's Star*Reach, Comics and Comix, Fox (421 N. Maple, Lombard, Ill. 60148), New Morning Talent Union (P.O. Box 1074, Bergenline Station, Union City, NJ, 07087), Orb (31 Albany Ave., Toronto, Ont., Canada) and the Cartoonists' Co-Op Press (Box 40474, SF, CA 94110).

Soon from Print Mint: Roger Brand's TALES OF SEX AND DEATH #2, and Trina's GIRL FIGHT #2. From Last-Gasp, SLOW DEATH #6 (work by Holmes, Metzger, Jaxon and Dallas). From Rip-Off Press: WODER WARTHOG #2. The Gilbert Shelton/Ben Van Meter movie, SET YOUR CHICKENS FREE, premiered at San Francisco Art Institute on April Fool's Day. Shelton has been interested in film since he was an undergrad at Univ. of Texas. The Freak Brothers were originally the subject of a planned-but-never-made 15 minute movie. Corben's ROWLF was also planned for filming and drawn later. Artists are like that at times.

Good time to study comic art. All of Eisner's beautiful SPIRITs back in print and available again. His influence is evident in both over and ugs.

Nicest thing about the DC hundred pagers is the Golden Age material. You'll be glad to know THE COMIC BOOK BOOK is out, too. Edited by Dick Lupoff and Don Thompson, this is volume 2 of ALL IN COLOR FOR A DIME, and it has essays on just about all of the Golden Age material from the flying aces to Plastic Man and Wonder Woman. Published by Arlington House, 81 Centre Avenue, New Rochelle, NY, 10801.

New women's paper in Berkeley. PLEXUS, 1424 Northside, Berk. No art yet.

Work by Lee Marrs coming up in PLOP! and CRACKED!

Larry Todd is doing 8 pages for Charles Dallas' PSYCHOTIC ADVENTURES #3.

Rand Holmes saw a shape in the plaster of his hallway that looked a lot like Jesus, and, you got it, a drawing of the prophet about ten inches above the floor. Will it be another bit of lost art like that gigantic drawing on the wall of Spain's one-time bedroom in that big yellow house on Diamond St.?

SNARF #5 is coming! From Krupp, cover by Harvey Kurtzman. Soon.

SHORT ORDER COMIX #2, to be published by Jack Paul (Family Fun Comix), will have the first underground comic work drawn by film-maker George Kuchar. Also in the book are Kinney, MacMillan, Schenkman, Bill Griffith and Rory Hayes. It's Art Spiegelman's title.

For information on The Comic Book Seminar, write to UC Extension, 55 Laguna Street, San Francisco, CA, or call up Carol Thompson, 861-6833, and she'll fill you in on tuition, etc. It's 2 units of English credit and will probably cost about $50 for the weekend. Here's what's on tap: Dick Lupoff will speak on the relationship between the pulps and the comics. The second volume of his ALL IN COLOR FOR A DIME is out from Arlington House, and he and his co-editor Don Thompson call it THE COMIC BOOK BOOK. I'm using this as one of the texts for the course because it has essays on just about all the major comic trips except the ugs. Tom Andrea will lecture on the mythic origins of the superhero. Trina on "The Image of Women in the Comics." Don Ault on "Disney, Fleischer, and the Funny Animals," Lee Marrs on the humor tradition from MAD to NAT LAMP. Shelby on the educational possibilities of comics. We'll have a lot of film material, including a showing of Fleischer's GULLIVER'S TRAVELS (7-27). Any practicing artists who would like to participate in this seminar (by talking to small groups of students) may arrange a complimentary enrollment by contacting COMIX WORLD before the first of July. A display of early Sunday pages and Golden Age comic art is being arranged by Bob Beerbohm of the Berkeley Comic Art Shop. This will be a chronological history of the development of the medium from strip to graphic story.

COMICS AND COMIX is the newest publisher of undergrounds. A corporation with four retail stores in Northern California, C&C enters the field with four books: RONALD THE BARBARIAN, BARBARIAN KILLER FUNNIES, SPACED, and THE FIRST KINGDOM. Seems to be typical for retailers to have publishing aspirations. Gary Arlington began publishing comix soon after opening his store in San Francisco (April 22, 1968). An EC collector since 1948, Gary had always wanted to revive the horror books. In 1973, he published some parody EC covers in his Nickel Library series, got sued by Bill Gaines, and ceased and desisted as court ordered. Bob Sidebottom in San Jose got into publishing with Hale Han's BARBARIAN #1, and intends to keep that title going as CALIFORNIA COMICS. Most of this material being published by people who run comic stores falls in the sword and sorcery category and would have gone into fanzines in time past. Fanzine art came into the ugs in a big way after the publication of Richard Corben's FANTAGOR #1 by Last-Gasp Eco-Funnies in 1971. Jan Strnad's ANOMALY #4 was published in comic format by Bud Plant in 1972. Some critics argue that fanzine material is not underground, and I'm inclined to agree in a political sense, but the term "underground" has come to be descriptive of any comic book printed outside the Eastern Industry, so I don't know. What do you think?

Clay Geerdes
915 Indian Rock Rd.
Berkeley, CA
94707

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COMICS QUIZ

QUESTION: WHAT DO THESE WELL-KNOWN COMIC CHARACTERS HAVE IN COMMON?

ANSWER: THEY ARE ALL SMILING.

THANLEY

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